

B. In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4, 6 to 12, 15 to 19, and 21 to 39 without prejudice, add new claims 43 to 45, and amend the claims as indicated below.

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A transgenic non-human mammal animal whose genome contains a nucleic acid sequence comprising a truncated Activin Type II receptor gene, which encodes a truncated Activin Type II receptor lacking kinase activity, and a muscle-specific promoter operably linked and integrated into the genome of the transgenic mammal animal, wherein the nucleic acid sequence is expressed so as to result in elevated levels of the truncated Activin Type II receptor and increased muscle mass in the transgenic mammal animal as compared to a corresponding corresponding nontransgenic mammal animal.

2. (Currently amended) The transgenic mammal animal of claim 1, wherein the muscle-specific promoter is a myosin light chain promoter/enhancer.

3. (Currently amended) The transgenic mammal animal of claim 1, wherein the Activin Type II receptor is an Activin RIIA or an Activin RIIB.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The transgenic mammal animal of claim 1, wherein the truncated Activin RIIB ~~receptor~~ comprises amino acid residues 1-174 of Activin RIIB.

6 to 12. (Cancelled)

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13. (Original) An expression cassette comprising a DNA segment encoding a truncated Activin RIIB receptor gene operably linked to a muscle-specific control sequence.

14. (Original) The expression cassette of claim 13 wherein the muscle-specific promoter is a myosin light chain promoter/enhancer.

15 to 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A cell or cell line isolated from the transgenic mammal of claim 1 ~~animal of any of claims 1, 6 or 11~~, wherein said cell expresses the truncated Activin Type II receptor, ~~myostatin prodomain, or follistatin, respectively~~.

21 to 39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently amended) A method of producing a chimeric non-human mammal animal, the method comprising:

obtaining an ovum from ~~animal~~ ovaries of a non-human mammal;
maturing the ovum *in vitro*;
fertilizing the mature ovum *in vitro* to form a zygote;
introducing into the zygote *in vitro* a nucleic acid construct comprising in operable association a DNA sequence encoding a truncated Activin Type II receptor, which lacks kinase activity, a myostatin propeptide, or follistatin, and a regulatory sequence that promotes expression of the DNA sequence encoding the polypeptide truncated Activin Type II receptor;

maturing the zygote to a preimplantation stage embryo *in vitro*; and
transplanting the embryo into a recipient female mammal of the same species
animal, wherein the female mammal animal gestates the embryo to produce a chimeric
animal.

41. (Currently amended) A method of producing animal food products from a transgenic
non-human mammal having increased muscle mass comprising:

- a) introducing a transgene encoding ~~follistatin, myostatin propeptide or a truncated Activin Type II receptor, which lacks kinase activity~~ into germ cells of a pronuclear embryo of the mammal ~~the animal~~;
- b) implanting the embryo into the oviduct of a pseudopregnant female of the same species, thereby allowing the embryo to mature to full term progeny;
- c) testing the progeny for presence of the transgene to identify transgene-positive progeny;
- d) cross-breeding transgene-positive progeny to obtain further transgene-positive progeny; and
- e) processing the progeny to obtain foodstuff food products.

42. (Currently amended) A method of producing ~~avian, porcine, piscine or bovine~~ food products from a transgenic ovine, porcine, or bovine mammal having increased muscle mass comprising:

- a) introducing a transgene encoding follistatin, myostatin propeptide or a truncated Activin Type II receptor, which lacks kinase activity, into an embryo of an ~~avian, ovine, porcine, piscine or bovine mammal animal~~;
- b) ~~culturing the embryo under conditions whereby progeny are hatched implanting the embryo into the oviduct of a pseudopregnant female of the same species, thereby allowing the embryo to mature to full term progeny;~~
- c) testing the progeny for presence of the transgene to identify transgene-positive progeny;
- d) cross-breeding transgene-positive progeny to obtain a transgenic ovine, porcine, or bovine mammal; and
- e) processing the progeny transgenic mammal to obtain food products foodstuff.

43. (New) The transgenic non-human mammal of claim 1, wherein the mammal is ovine, porcine, or bovine.

44. (New) The chimeric non-human mammal of claim 40, wherein the mammal is ovine, porcine, or bovine.

45. (New) The transgenic non-human mammal of claim 41, wherein the mammal is ovine, porcine, or bovine.